

Message Text

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SUBJECT: NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES' (NAS) AND AMERICAN
SCIENTISTS' RESPONSE TO ORLOV SENTENCING

REF: A) BERLIN 3506; B) STATE 126718; C) MOSCOW 11258;
D) STATE 131522

REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO NAS DELEGATION
SECRETARY LARRY MITCHELL FROM NAS, ALLEN CAMPBELL:

1. THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING
CANCELLATION OF VISITS TO THE SOVIET UNION AND VERBAL PRO-
TESTS BY NAS AND INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN SCIENTISTS IN RESPONSE
TO THE TRIAL AND SENTENCING OF SOVIET PHYSICIST, YURIY
ORLOV. PLEASE TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION TO MEMBERS OF THE
DELEGAION OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES WHO ARE NOW
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VISITING BERLIN.

2. ON MAY 19, THE ENTIRE NAS DELEGATION TO THE VIITH US-
USSR JOINT SYMPOSIUM ON CONDENSED MATTER THEORY ANNOUNCED
THEIR DECISION TO CANCEL THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE MEET-
ING. HOWEVER, AS REPORTED EARLIER, ONE MEMBER OF THE US
GROUP, DAVID PINES, WAS ALREADY IN MOSCOW.

3. INDIVIDUAL TRIPS WERE CANCELED BY NICOLAAS BLOEMBERGEN OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY AND ROBERT MARSHAK, PRESIDENT OF CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK. BLOEMBERGEN AND MARSHAK ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF THE NAS. BLOEMBERGEN WAS SCHEDULED TO MAKE ONE-MONTH VISIT WITHIN INTERACADEMY PROGRAM WITH SOVIETS. HE SENT TELEGRAM TO SOVIET ACADEMY PRESIDENT ALEKSANDROV ON MAY 19 CANCELING THE VISIT. MARSHAK WAS SCHEDULED TO MAKE A PRIVATE VISIT TO TAKE PART IN A SEMINAR ON GAUGE FIELD THEORIES AND TO CELEBRATE ACADEMICIAN MARKOV'S 70TH BIRTHDAY. MARSHAK'S CABLE OF CANCELLATION WAS SENT TO PROFESSOR A. LOGUNOV, DIRECTOR OF SOVIET ACADEMY'S INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH.

4. NAS PRESIDENT PHILIP HANDLER SENT THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO LEONID BREZHNEV ON MAY 19: (BEGIN TEXT.)

I MUST COMMUNICATE TO YOU THE DEEP SORROW OF US SCIENTISTS ON LEARNING OF THE TRIAL, CONVICTION AND SENTENCING OF PHYSICIST YURI ORLOV. THIS EVENT HAS SERIOUSLY ERODED THE SUPPORT AMONG SCIENTISTS OF THIS COUNTRY FOR THE LONG-STANDING PROGRAM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THIS ACADEMY AND THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE USSR. NUMBERS OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS, INCLUDING OUR ENTIRE DELEGATION TO THE VIITH US-USSR JOINT SYMPOSIUM ON CONDENSED MATTER THEORY, HAVE ALREADY CANCELLED THEIR PLANS FOR SCIENTIFIC VISITS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE SOVIET UNION AND THEIR ACTIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY AMERICAN SCIENTISTS GENERALLY. WE ASK THAT YOU TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO MITIGATE THE SENTENCE OF YURI ORLOV. FURTHER, WE HOPE THAT THE TRIALS OF A. GINSBURG AND A.SHCHARANSKIY WILL BE CONDUCTED OPENLY AND THAT WE MAY BE PERMITTED TO HAVE QUALIFIED OBSERVERS PRESENT. (END TEXT.)

5. NAS FOREIGN SECRETARY GEORGE HAMMOND SENT FOLLOWING TELEX MESSAGE TO SOVIET ACADEMY CHIEF SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY SKRYABIN ALSO ON MAY 19: (BEGIN TEXT.)

CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PAST WEEK INVOLVING THE CASE OF YURIY ORLOV AND SEVERITY OF HIS PUNISHMENT HAVE LED TO A DECISION BY THE US PHYSICISTS WHO WERE PLANNING TO TAKE PART IN THE US-USSR JOINT SYMPOSIUM ON CONDENSED MATTER THEORY THAT THEY CANNOT AT THIS TIME ATTEND THE MEETING. IT IS HIGHLY UNFORTUNATE THAT THESE EVENTS HAVE LED TO AN INTERRUPTION OF THE FRUITFUL INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THE SCIENTISTS OF OUR TWO ACADEMIES. (END TEXT.)

6. ON MAY 20, NAS ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE ABOUT THESE

MATTERS AND STORIES APPEARED IN MAJOR US NEWSPAPERS ON

MAY 21 AND 22. PRESS RELEASE INCLUDED FULL TEXTS OF
CABLES THAT HAD BEEN SENT TO THE USSR BY BRINKMAN AND
ABRAHAMS, AMERICAN CO-ORGANIZERS OF THE CONDENSED MATTER
THEORY SYMPOSIUM (REF B), AND BY BLOEMBERGEN AND MARSHAK.
PRESS RELEASE ALSO INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY
HANDLER: (BEGIN TEXT.)

WE HAVE REPEATEDLY INFORMED SOVIET AUTHORITIES THAT THE
ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THREATENS TO ERODE THE WILLINGNESS
OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS TO COOPERATE WITH THEIR SOVIET
COUNTERPARTS...AND NOW OUR PREDICTIONS ARE BEING BORNE
OUT. (END TEXT.)
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7. AS YET, NAS HAS RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO
CANCELLATIONS OR STATEMENTS.

8. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT. CHRISTOPHER

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